Kearsley Urban District Council

MINISTRY OF HEALTH LIBRARY

Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

1964

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.
M.O.H,

F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.
Public Health Inspector.

Kearsley Urban District Council

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MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman:

Councillor T. COOPER.

Vice-Chairman:

Councillor J. HOLLINSHEAD, C.C.

Members:

Councillor N. D. BROOKS
,, K. H. COLLEY
,, R. CORNTHWAITE
,, T. LUBY
,, D. McINTYRE
,, A. T. NOWELL
,, T. A. PILKINGTON, J.P.
,, W. J. J. RATCLIFFE
,, W. A. ROBINSON
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,, Mrs. B. E. TAYLOR
,, J. WALKER

STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health
R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Public Health Inspector ... ... F. BROOK, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Clerk ... ... Miss M. LINGARD

Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health

To the Chairman and Members of the Kearsley Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I present the Annual Report on the health of the Urban District for the year 1964.

Vital Statistics

For the years from 1953 to 1964 the vital statistics for the births and deaths are shown in tabulated form.

The Infant Mortality rate and the Still Birth rate are too high but the County Council is the authority for Infant and Maternal Welfare services and the remedy is for their seeking. In the causes of death there is an increase in Heart Disease and Cancer, and of the latter six cases were of lung cancer.

It is pleasing to note the continued decrease in cases of Infectious Diseases. Once again there were no cases of Whooping Cough notified and it would seem that immunisation against this disease has been most successful.

TABLE I.

YEAR	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
Death Rate	12.7	14.0	15.1	12.8	15.7	15.2	14.3	13.5	15.5	16.1	14.5	15.3
Birth Rate	15.3	15.6	10.7	16.2	13.5	16.0	13.5	17.2	16.1	15.8	18.8	21.9
Infantile Mortality Rate ...	25.0	37.0	0.0	30.0	57.0	12.0	21.4	22.5	36.1	42.7	27.6	47.4
Still Birth Rate	24.0	24.0	18.0	29.0	34.0	29.2	14.1	16.6	6.0	12.0	16.3	27.6
Causes of Death:												
Heart Disease	(26) 48	(16) 44	(13) 45	(14) 38	(17) 57	(25) 42	(20) 37	(30) 47	(18) 40	(10) 27	(10) 35	(13) 42
Cancer	(4) 23	(3) 19	(7) 26	(3) 11	(3) 18	(5) 25	(8) 23	(4) 20	(5) 18	(7) 21	(3) 14	(6) 30
Vascular lesions of nervous system	12	24	24	14	26	25	25	13	16	27	28	21
Bronchitis	12	16	17	12	6	4	6	7	10	5	4	5
Pneumonia	3	3	2	3	2	5	7	4	2	8	8	4

The figures in brackets are those of Coronary Thrombosis and Lung Cancer.

TABLE II.

DEATHS OF PEOPLE AGED 65 YEARS AND OVER

	65—70	71—75	76—80	81—85	Over 85	Total
January	2	2	3	1	1	9
February	–	1	1	2	–	4
March	3	2	–	1	2	8
April	–	4	2	4	2	12
May	–	–	2	–	1	3
June	3	–	3	2	1	9
July	2	4	2	1	3	12
August	3	1	–	1	–	5
September	1	1	–	–	–	2
October	2	1	1	–	1	5
November	3	6	–	1	–	10
December	2	1	3	–	–	6
TOTALS	21	23	17	13	11	85

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

Area—1,728 statute acres (approx.).
Population—Estimated June, 1964—10,500.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	Total	Males	Females
Births:			
Legitimate	197	107	90
Illegitimate	14	9	5
Still Births:			
Legitimate	6	3	3
Illegitimate	—	—	—

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Birth Rate per 1,000 population	21.9	18.4
Still Births per 1,000 total births	27.6	16.3

	Total	Males	Females
Deaths	139	73	66

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Death Rate per 1,000 population (adjusted)	15.3	11.3

Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth Nil

Deaths of Infants under one year of age:

	Total	Males	Females
Legitimate	9	8	1
Illegitimate	1	1	—

	Kearsley	England & Wales
Infant Mortality Rate: (All infants under 1 year of age per 1,000 live births)	47.4	20.0
Perinatal Mortality Rate: (Per 1,000 total births)	69.1	—
Maternal Mortality Rate: (Per 1,000 total births)	Nil	0.25

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	30
Deaths from Measles (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages)	Nil
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age)	Nil

CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1964

Vascular lesions of Nervous System	21
Heart Diseases	42
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2
Other Circulatory Diseases	7
Cancer of lung and bronchus	6
Cancer	24
Leukaemia	—
Diabetes	—
Influenza	—
Pneumonia	4
Bronchitis	5
Other diseases of respiratory system	—
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	2
Nephritis and nephrosis	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	15
Motor vehicle accidents	3
All other accidents	4
Congenital malformations	2
	139

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The following is a list of cases of infectious diseases notified during the year 1964:—

Disease	No.
Scarlet Fever	7
Dysentery	1
Measles	34
Pneumonia (all forms)	Nil

Cases removed to Hospital from the district:—

Pneumonia	Nil
Sonne Dysentery	Nil
Measles	Nil

Tuberculosis—Cases Notified:—

Respiratory	3

The treatment of all cases of tuberculosis is undertaken by the County Council.

FOOD POISONING

During the year there were two cases of Food Poisoning reported.

SCARLET FEVER

Seven cases of Scarlet Fever were reported during the year, and all of these were nursed at home.

DIPHTHERIA

For the eighteenth year in succession there were no cases of Diphtheria.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The bacteriological examination of sputum is undertaken by the Lancashire Tuberculosis Committee.

The bacteriological examination of milk and water samples and of pathological specimens is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infimary.

WATER SUPPLY

Bolton Corporation having merged with Irwell Valley Water Board as from the 1st April, 1963, is now the sole source of supply for the whole of the district.

The Chemical Analysis and Bacteriological examinations are now given collectively for the areas previously supplied by Bolton Corporation Waterworks, Irwell Valley Water Board and Bacup Corporation Water Undertaking. These show that the quality and quantity is satisfactory.

There are four houses, with a population of 10, in the outlying district known as Giant's Seat, dependent on well water, which is not a connected supply.

	Bolton Corp.
No. of bacteriological examinations of raw water ...	538
Results	3% Unsatisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	24
Results	Satisfactory

Water going into supply where treatment is installed:—

No. of bacteriological examinations	1,723
Results	Satisfactory
No. of chemical analyses	38
Results	Satisfactory
Action taken in respect of any form of contamination ...	No contam'tion
Liability to plumbo-solvent action	None

All dwelling houses in the district, except for four, are supplied from public water mains direct to the houses.

HOUSING

Private enterprise built 211 houses during the year. There is not in the urban district an acute shortage of housing accommodation, and the housing list is now mainly composed of people desiring houses better placed and with better amenities than those which they at present occupy.

In October 1963 a schedule of houses with an expected life of less than 15 years was prepared, of this number 229 were to be dealt with in the first five years. 129 of these were dealt with before the end of 1964.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—

	Houses	Flats	Bungalows
(1) By the local authority ...	18	8	—
(2) By other local authorities ...	—	—	—
(3) By other bodies or persons ...	211	—	—

1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:—

(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) ... 93

(b) No. of inspections, formal or informal, made for the purpose 186

(2) Dwelling-houses unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-
Demolition, Clearance or Closing orders have been made (at any time). 73

(3) No. of dwelling-houses found during the year to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit ... 20

2. Houses Demolished:—

In Clearance Areas:—

	Houses Demolished	Displaced during year Persons	Displaced during year Families
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation	27	74	24
(2) Houses included by bad arrangement, etc.	—	—	—
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957	—	—	—
Not in Clearance Areas:—			
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	7	4	2

3. Unfit Houses Closed:—

	Number
(1) Under Section 16(4), 17(1), and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	16
(2) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act, 1957	—
(3) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—

4. Unfit Houses Made Fit and Houses in which Defects were remedied:—

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(1) After informal action by local authority ...	20	—
(2) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	1	—
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	—	—
(3) Under Section 24 Housing Act, 1957 ...	—	—

5. Housing (Financial Provisions) Act, 1958 and House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959:—

Standard Grants:—

Action during year:—	*No. of dwellings or other buildings affected*
(i) Applications submitted to local authority	4
(ii) Applications approved by local authority	3
(iii) Work completed	—

The Council also makes loans under the above provisions for the construction, acquisition, improvement and repair of houses.

6. Housing Conditions:—

Approximately 31 per cent. of the houses in Kearsley may be classed as old, 19 per cent. as medium and 50 per cent. as modern.

(i) In hand at end of year:—

103 Houses.

NOTICES

Sixteen preliminary notices were served during the year.

HOUSE REFUSE SCAVENGING

Statement showing the number of receptacles emptied during the year:—

Ashbins	191,198
Pails	151
Total loads removed	2,803

The refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping at Singing Clough Tip. This method continues to be most satisfactory.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The sanitary accommodation of the district at the end of the year was as follows:—

Fresh water closets	4,036
Waste water closets	44
Ashbins	4,232
Pails	5

SALVAGE

The collection and sale of salvage continues to be successful. During the year under review the combined weight of salvage collected was 177 tons 6 cwts. 2 qtrs, made up as follows:—

	T.	C.	Q.
Waste Paper	128	6	2
Kitchen Waste	20	14	2
Miscellaneous	28	5	2

The total value was £1,137.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE

Drainage is partly on the combined and partly on the separate system. The following summary shows how the sewage is dealt with:—

Sewage Works.	Method of Treatment.
Clammerclough	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Main Outfall, Kearsley Green ...	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Ringley	Detritus tanks, precipitation tanks, percolating filters, humus tanks and storm tanks.
Prestolee	Detritus tanks, aeration tanks, humus tanks and storm tanks.

At Horridge Brook and Unity Brook the sewage is lifted by automatic ejectors into sewers connected with the Main Outfall Works.

The new works of the Bolton & District Joint Sewerage Board were officially opened in June, 1964.

ICE CREAM

There are now 45 shops in the urban district registered for the sale of ice cream.

Eleven samples of ice cream were procured and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory, Bolton Royal Infirmary, for bacteriological examination, and the results were satisfactory.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

During the year the following food was found to be unfit for human consumption, and was voluntarily surrendered by the owners:—

Tinned Ham 68lbs.
Fish 7lbs.
Tinned Bilberries 20lbs.
Tinned Apples 16lbs.

ADULTERATION OF FOOD

The County Council is the authority under the Sale of Food and Drugs Act.

A total of 42 samples were obtained, consisting of 21 samples of milk (1 of which was Channel Islands milk) and 21 others comprising:-

1 Bread
1 Oatmeal
1 Margarine
3 Ice Lollies
1 Fresh Fruit (orange)
1 Stewed meat, canned
1 Tea
1 Mixed cut peel
1 Vegetables, canned
1 Dried peas
1 Marzipan
1 Double cream
1 Fresh Fruit (apples)
1 Tomatoes, fresh
1 Sweetmeat
1 Olive Oil B.P.
1 Flour confectionery
2 Fruit, canned

All the above samples were reported by the County Analyst to be genuine.

FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND BAKEHOUSES

During the year twenty-four visits were paid to factories and workplaces, and forty-eight visits to Bakehouses.

The premises were in a satisfactory condition.

ERADICATION OF BED BUGS

There were no cases of bed bugs found during the year.

RODENT CONTROL

One man is engaged solely on this work.

Two sewer maintenance treatments have been carried out during the year.

The following action relating to rodent control has also been carried out:—

	Type of Property		
	Non-agricultural		
	Dwelling Houses	All Other	Agricultural
(a) No of properties in the district	3,706	662	12
(b) No. of properties inspected ...	1,297	387	12
(c) Total inspections carried out (incl. re-inspections)	2,789	387	12
(d) No. of properties inspected which were found to be infested by:			
Rats—major	—	—	—
Rats—minor	52	54	—
Mice—major	—	—	—
Mice—minor	86	39	—
(e) No. of infested properties treated	221	144	—
(f) Total treatments carried out (incl. re-treatments)	221	144	—
(g) No. of 'Block' control schemes carried out	—	—	—

SUMMARY OF WORK DONE IN THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1st January, 1964, to 31st December, 1964

Visits to Infectious Diseases	12
Visits to Property Under Notice	234
Visits to Factories and Workplaces	24
Visits to Bakehouses	48
Visits to Shops	42
Interviews with Owners, Builders, Architects, etc.	26
Inspections of Drains, etc., and Works in Progress	102
General visits—no nuisances	906
Smoke Control Area	84
	1,478

The report of the Boundary Commission on this area of Lancashire is eagerly awaited. It may be that this urban district will be merged with others and although it would never lose its identity as Kearsley, it may become part of a whole administered from elsewhere. Kearsley has every reason to be proud of its record in successful administration. Anything that concerned the health and well being of the Kearsley inhabitants and any progress in municipal needs that could be made the councils that have administered the urban district have never failed to recognize and implement them during the 20 years it has been my privilege to serve them.

I am grateful for the help and encouragement that I have received from the Chairman and members of the Council and I have been fortunate in having a loyal and competent staff.

I am,

Your obedient servant,

R. SYDNEY DAVIDSON,

Medical Officer of Health.

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 to 1959

PART I OF THE ACT

1—INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Numbers of			
	Number on Register	Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	69	60	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	21	22	Nil	Nil
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total	90	82	Nil	Nil

2—Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
			Referred		
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)	9	9	Nil	Nil	Nil
Overcrowding (S. 2)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Inadequate ventilation (S.4) ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(b) Unsuitable or defective ...	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Out-work)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Total ...	9	9	Nil	Nil	Nil

PART VIII OF THE ACT

Out-work

(Sections 110 and 111)

	Section 110			Section 111		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)	No of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecu-tions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwhole-some premises	Notices served	Prosecu-tions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil